DFIRS NEWS

Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System

HB 57 & The Value of DFIRS

HB57 the False Fire Alarm bill was passed in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, March 25, 2003. The bill has been sent to the Senate for approval. Currently, the bill is in the Senate Public Safety Committee. Once this committee meets and the bill gets voted out of committee it will be placed on the Senate agenda for a vote. If all goes well this could be done prior to the Easter holiday break. The next step would then be for the Governor to sign the bill should it pass in the Senate.

The SFMO would like to thank every DFIRS participating company for their assistance with this bill. The cumulative data from the DFIRS database provided the statistics needed to clearly demonstrate the burden that false alarms place on our fire service.

FEMA Security Procedures

FEMA has implemented new security procedures for anyone using the free Federal Tool software. Any on-line user who has not signed into the system for at least 60 days will have their account deactivated. Therefore, please make sure you sign in within this time frame or you will have to contact Program Manager, Crystal Beach for assistance.

Outstanding Issues

The SFMO office has been exerting a lot of energy bringing new departments on board, training new officers and users, and analyzing data. With all of this activity going on some request may have "slipped through the cracks."

If you or your department have requested information or assistance on a particular matter but have yet to receive it please contact Program Manager Crystal Beach for immediate assistance.

Coding Questions

Remember, the main question to always ask yourself when coding incident reports is what did your department find at the scene upon arrival.

A recent scenario received by the SFMO regarding incident type coding: **"Some type of kitchen event (it could be burnt toast or fumes from a self cleaning oven) occurs in a multi-family complex and this event causes the smoke alarm to go off. A call is received from the building alarm and upon arrival we locate the detector; consequently the occupant may not of known they triggered the alarm. How do we record this?"**

Answer:

- Record the incident as incident type 743 – smoke detector activation no fire/unintentional.

Other recently submitted coding questions:

"How do I record a fire drill that 911 was never notified about?"

Answer:

If you were cancelled before you ever got to the scene this is incident type 611; however, if you got to the scene the incident type would be codes 741-744 depending on the type of alarm system.

"We were going to an auto accident and the police report under control what do I code this as?"

Answer:

If you were cancelled before you ever got to the scene the incident type is 611.

"Second call from original caller tells 911 services not required, how do we code this?"

Answer:

If you were cancelled before ever arriving at the scene the incident type is 611; however, if you made it to the scene code what you found upon arrival at the scene.

"Workers sanding set smoke detector off what do we code this as?"

Answer:

If you were cancelled before you ever got to the scene

Welcome to NFIRS 5.0 Self-Study
USFA Release Date: March 19, 2003

Welcome to NFIRS 5.0 Self-Study

Welcome to the self-study version of the National Fire Incident Report System (NFIRS) training. This is version 5.0 of the self-study program. NFIRS is the comprehensive method for detailed tracking of fire, emergency, and related incident responses. The information that can be recorded in NFIRS can be used by your emergency services organization to:

- Track current workloads, develop response metrics and statistics, and help with current asset management

- Provide a basis for identifying, developing and implementing new programs, or redirect existing programs.

- Generate and support data that may justify the acquisition of additional resources.

- Help reduce the needless loss of life and property in both your jurisdiction and throughout the United States.

This training program is geared to allow you to proceed at your own pace.
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You can download this self study course by visiting www.usfa.fema.gov

this is incident type 611; however, if you arrive at the scene the incident type would be codes 741-744 depending on the system. This is considered an unintentional false alarm due to the fact that the system responded to environmental stimuli (sanding).

Participation Update

Christiana and Wilmington Manor are the only two departments in the state not currently participating in the DFIRS program. Both departments are currently in the process of implementing incident reporting and should be on board in a short period of time.

Congratulations!
The following departments are active electronic DFIRS participants:

> **56. Mill Creek Fire Co**
> **57. Cranston Heights Fire Co**
> **58. Minquadale Fire Co#1 Inc**
> **59. Talleyville Fire Co**

For more information regarding the Delaware Fire Incident Reporting System (DFIRS), please contact Crystal Beach at 302-739-5665 or crystal.beach@state.de.us

PLEASE POST FOR ALL DEPARTMENT MEMBERS